

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing content relevant to television programming, the method comprising:
 - determining television programming being viewed by a viewer at a particular time;
 - determining available context information associated with the television programming available for delivery to the viewer;
 - making an intelligent selection of selected context information from among the available context information, wherein making an intelligent selection comprises selecting the selected context information based upon a hierarchy of the available context information; and
 - delivering the selected context information to the viewer,

wherein the hierarchy of the available context information comprises ranked categories of context information associated with a television program being viewed by the viewer.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining television programming being viewed comprises determining the television programming tuned to by a set-top box.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining television programming being viewed comprises determining the television programming based upon an EPG.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining context information associated with the television programming comprises determining context information based upon a television signal received by a set-top box.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining context information associated with the television programming comprises determining context information based upon a channel identification number.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining context information associated with the television programming comprises determining context information based upon a broadcaster identifier.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining context information associated with the television programming comprises determining context information based upon a television show.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining context information associated with the television programming comprises determining context information based upon an episode of a television show.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining context information associated with the television programming comprises determining context information based upon an EPG identifier.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining context information associated with the television programming comprises determining context information based upon a program content category.

11. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 wherein the hierarchy is predetermined.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the hierarchy is determined by an episode of a television program.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the hierarchy is determined by a television program.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the hierarchy is determined by a broadcaster identifier.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the hierarchy is determined by an EPG identifier.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein selecting the selected context information based upon the hierarchy comprises:

first selecting context information from among the available context information based upon an episode of a television program;

where no available context information based upon an episode is found, selecting context information from among the available context information based upon a television program;

where no available context information based upon a television program is found, selecting context information from among the available context information based upon a broadcaster identifier; and

where no available context information based upon a broadcaster identifier is found, selecting context information from among the available context information based upon a content category.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the hierarchy is viewer selected.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the hierarchy is dynamically determined.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein delivering the selected context information to the viewer comprises displaying the context information by a set-top box.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer program, stored on a computer readable medium, comprising instructions for causing a computer system to perform the following operations:

determine television programming being viewed by a viewer at a particular time;

determine available context information associated with the television programming available for delivery to the viewer;

make an intelligent selection of selected context information from among the available context information wherein making the intelligent selection comprises selecting the selected context information based upon a hierarchy of the available context information; and

deliver the selected context information to the viewer,

wherein the hierarchy of the available context information comprises ranked categories of context information associated with a television program being viewed by the viewer.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 20 wherein the computer readable medium is a disc.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 20 wherein the computer readable medium is a client device.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 20 wherein the computer readable medium is a host device.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 20 wherein the computer readable medium is a propagated signal.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the available context information comprises one or more of the following information items associated with the television programming being viewed by the user: question boxes, electronic ballots, poll results, chat rooms, information for ordering merchandise, links to a broadcaster's web page, websites of business partners of the broadcaster, links to related category content, and web pages.

26. (Canceled) .

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 126 wherein the ranked categories comprise one or more of an episode of the television program, a name of the television program, and a broadcaster of the television program.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of providing content relevant to television programming, the method comprising:

determining television programming being viewed by a viewer at a particular time;

determining available context information associated with the television programming available for delivery to the viewer;

making an intelligent selection of selected context information from among the available context information, wherein making the intelligent selection comprises selecting the selected context information based upon a hierarchy of the available context information; and

delivering the selected context information to the viewer.

~~The method of claim 1~~ wherein the hierarchy of available context information comprises ranked categories of context information associated with ~~associated with~~ the viewer.

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29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the ranked categories comprise one or more of the viewer's geographic location, the viewer's local time, the viewer's gender, the viewer's age, and the viewer's interests.